

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 11-18 have been examined. Claims 3-10 and 19-62 are withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 1, 2 and 11-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and claims 15-18 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

I. Preliminary Matters

In regard to the Examiner's comments regarding the June 23, 2004 Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant refers the Examiner to the April 20, 2006 Submission.

The Examiner has objected to claims 15-18 due to minor informalities. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 15-18 in a manner believed to overcome the objection.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of U.S. 5,731,857 to Neijzen ("Neijzen") and U.S. 6,172,723 to Inoue et al. ("Inoue")

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Niezen in view of Inoue.

A. Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references. For example, claim 1 recites a display panel which has a plurality of pixel sections provided in the form of a matrix, each pixel section including at least a pixel for displaying an image for a first viewpoint and a pixel for displaying an image for a second viewpoint.

The Examiner maintains that Niejzen discloses the above features. In particular, the Examiner maintains that element 27' of Figure 3a discloses the claimed pixel for displaying an image for a first viewpoint and element 27'' discloses the claimed pixel for displaying an image for a second viewpoint. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion.

For example, Neijzen fails to disclose that elements 27' and 27'' are pixels for displaying first and second viewpoints. In figure 3a of Neijzen, a lens corresponding to the pixel 27' is denoted by reference numeral 63' and a lens corresponding to the pixel 27'' is denoted by reference numeral 63''. The number of pixels in Niejzen corresponds to the number of lenses. When pixels and lenses are arranged in this manner, the effect of dividing images into one for a first view and one for a second view does not occur. Accordingly, the teachings of Niejzen relate to a technique in a technical field that is completely different from the one to which the present invention relates, and Niejzen cannot be construed in the manner set forth by the Examiner.

Turning to Inoue, the reference teaches that in order to reduce stray light of collimated light in a projection display device, due to aberration of microlenses, a region with a low reflectivity is provided around a region with a high reflectivity. Although Inoue uses microlenses and a reflection plate having surface projections, the invention of Inoue relates to a field which is technically different from the one to which the present invention relates. Applicant submits that Inoue neither discloses nor suggests the application of the microlenses and the reflection plate having surface projections to a three-dimensional display device and a

multi-screen display device. In particular, the invention of Inoue is not useful for light other than collimated light and collimated light cannot be used in a three-dimensional display device, etc.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference and respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

B. Claim 11

Since claim 11 is dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

C. Claim 13

Applicant submits that claim 13 is patentable over the cited references. For example, claim 13 recites that the focal distance f of the lens, the distance H between the surface of the reflection plate and the apex of the lens, the lens pitch L and the minimum pitch V of the surface projections fulfill the following expression:

$$H/f \leq -V/L + 1$$

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner summarily concludes that the alleged combination of Neijzen and Inoue satisfies the claimed expression. For example, the Examiner assumes that V is extremely small compared to L in the display device taught in Inoue and that a lens pitch would equal to a pixel pitch since Inoue discloses that projections are formed from a roughened surface of a pixel electrode. However, such *assumptions* fail to teach or suggest that the alleged combination of Neijzen and Inoue satisfy the claimed expression. For example,

neither reference teaches specific values, such that when the values are inserted into the claimed expression, the expression is satisfied. Neijzen merely teaches that the focal length of the lenses 63 is equal to twice the distance between the microlens array 61 and the picture display panel 7 (col. 8, lines 7-10). Accordingly, it would appear that H/f of Neijzen equals $\frac{1}{2}$. However, there is no specific teaching in either reference that $-V/L + 1$ would be greater than or equal to $\frac{1}{2}$.

As set forth in MPEP §2143, a basic requirement of a prima facie case of obviousness is that the prior art reference(s) teach all of the claim limitations. Since neither of the cited references teach the claimed feature, the Examiner has not met his burden. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to cite to an additional reference to cure the deficient teachings of Neijzen and Inoue if the rejection is to be maintained. Further, in regard to the Examiner's statement that a lens pitch would equal to a pixel pitch, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate which reference teaches such a feature and how such feature pertains to the claimed expression.

In addition to the above, Applicant submits that claim 13 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency upon claim 1.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Neijzen, Inoue and U.S. 6,765,638 to Masuzawa

The Examiner has rejected claims 2, 12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Neijzen in view of Inoue and Masuzawa.

A. Claim 2

Since claim 2 contains features that are analogous to the features of claim 1, and Masuzawa fails to cure the deficient teachings of Niejzen and Inoue, in regard to claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 2 is patentable for at least analogous reasons as claim 1.

B. Claim 12

Since claim 12 is dependent upon claim 2, Applicant submits that claim 12 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

B. Claim 14

Since claim 14 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 13, and Masuzawa fails to cure the deficient teachings of Neijzen and Inoue, Applicant submits that claim 14 is patentable for at least analogous reasons as set forth above for claim 13. In addition, Applicant submits that claim 14 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency upon claim 2.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

As set forth above, the Examiner has indicated that claims 15-18 contain allowable subject matter.

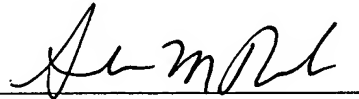
Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/787,144

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison M. Tulino
Registration No. 48,294

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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